

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY MEETING
August 12, 2010

The City Council of the City of Burlington held a Community Meeting at Fairchild Community Center, 827 S Graham-Hopedale Road, Burlington, North Carolina, 27217, on August 12, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ronnie K. Wall presided

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Wall, Councilmembers Huffman, Butler, Ross and Faucette

Councilmembers absent: None

Harold Owen, City Manager: Present

Citizens: 25

Mayor Wall opened the meeting with approximately 25 citizens in attendance. Mayor Wall introduced members of the City Council in attendance: Mayor Pro Tem David Huffman, Councilman Jim Butler, Councilman Steve Ross and Councilman Celo Faucette. Mayor Wall also recognized City Manager Harold Owen. The Mayor welcomed the citizens in attendance and asked that they speak on any issues which they wished to discuss.

Several residents were quite concerned about the seemingly deterioration of the neighborhood around Ireland Street, Holt Street and Rolling Road. They voiced concerns about the presence of boarding houses, prostitution and general decline of the homes in the community. Residents had concerns in reference to the City Ordinance governing boarding houses. While some of the residents were aware of changes to the boarding house ordinance enacted by recent City Councils, they asked for additional attention to be directed to this matter. Mayor Pro Tem Huffman responded that the amortization of Boarding Homes by the City would be a difficult policy to implement noting that significant public money would need to be invested in that process.

Residents also voiced concerns about minimum housing issues including the lack of care of yards, trash accumulating on front porches, open carports and the apparent lack of interest in the maintenance of certain properties. The question was asked about repeat offenders in terms of yard maintenance. Staff responded

that a second offense created an additional fee. Mayor Wall responded that the City's CBC program was designed for these types of concerns and written information and telephone numbers were given to citizens. Mayor Wall acknowledged that he had also received concerns from individuals not maintaining their properties as did all the City Councilmembers and that additional conversation on minimum housing enforcement would take place among Councilmembers. Mayor Pro Tem Huffman and Councilman Ross reminded citizens of due process when dealing with private properties.

A question was asked concerning the City's role with mass transit. Councilman Butler outlined the City's effort to work with Alamance County concerning park and ride lots. He explained that the County would need to approve either a tax on rental vehicles or a \$1.00 to \$5.00 tax on vehicle registrations. He also noted that the City was considering other options with the Elon Bio Bus System and ACTA.

Several citizens voiced concerns about traffic issues. Speeding on Graham-Hopedale Road and individuals parking on the sidewalk on McKinney Street were noted. Staff responded by indicating there would be an increased level of police in the area and an attempt will be made to handle these issues. Councilmen Ross and Faucette both noted the importance of neighborhood watch groups and associations to directly communicate with police staff.

The subject of junk motor vehicles was discussed briefly with several residents referencing particular situations of junk vehicles in the community. Councilmen indicated that there would be additional conversations that would take place on this issue.

Mayor Wall and Councilmen thanked residents for attending the meeting and caring about the City.

The meeting was adjourned.

Jondeen D. Terry
City Clerk